




# Stream Erosion Impact



Flooding events can severely erode rivers and streams which can wash away land. Property owners who own land adjacent to or crossed by watercourses and have lost property due to sudden flood events, may be able to recover this lost land (by grading and/or filling) after receiving permission from federal, state, and local agencies. The following lists the agencies homeowners should contact before starting any reclamation work.

## Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

According to the US Army Corps of Engineers land recovery (grade/fill) is permissible if the loss of land resulted directly from the storm event and not long term erosion problems. In some cases, permits (Section 404; or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act) will be required from USACE but not for all. Those homeowners interested in making these repairs should contact their USACE District Office before beginning work so they may make this determination. Listed below is the phone contact information for the USACE California offices; the email is: [cespk-regulatory-info@usace.army.mil](mailto:cespk-regulatory-info@usace.army.mil). The main website is linked in the sidebar.

<b>Sacramento District</b> (916) 557-5250 <b>Redding Field Office</b> (530) 223-9534	<b>Los Angeles District</b> (213) 452-3425 <b>Ventura Field Office</b> (805) 585-2140 <b>Riverside and Orange Counties</b> (213) 452-3425 <b>Carlsbad Field Office</b> (760) 602-4829
<b>San Francisco District</b> (415) 503-6795 <b>Eureka Field Office</b> (707) 443-0855	

## California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

Homeowners must notify the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and receive their permission before starting any repairs that will affect a stream or lake bed: this includes “dry” stream channels, subsurface streams, and floodplains of waterbodies, as well as wet streams and waterbodies. A Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (Section 1602 permit) may be required before beginning work. If a lake or streambed alteration agreement is required, the homeowner will need to submit plans to CDFW and will need to pay a small fee. CDFW may also require mitigation measures to protect wildlife and riparian habitat as part of the Streambed Alteration Agreement. The email is: [lsa@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:lsa@wildlife.ca.gov). CDFW regional offices:

Northern Region [and North Coast] (530) 225-2300  
North Central Region [Central Sierra and Sacramento Valley] (916) 358-2900  
Bay Delta Region (707) 944-5500  
Central Region [Coastal, Central Valley, and Central Foothills] (559) 243-4005  
South Coast Region [Santa Barbara to San Diego Coast] (858) 467-4201  
Inland Deserts Region [and Eastern Sierra] (909) 484-0167



**Regulations:** *Check local ordinances.*



## Additional Resources

<http://www.spd.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/>

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/LSA>

[www.caloes.ca.gov](http://www.caloes.ca.gov)  
[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)



Private homeowners may also be subject to local ordinances, homeowner association requirements, and county or city grading or building permits. It is important that homeowners contact their local government jurisdictions to determine what permits and restrictions may apply.



## QUESTIONS?

Monique Wilber  
Senior Environmental Planner  
(916) 845-8176  
[monique.wilber@caloes.ca.gov](mailto:monique.wilber@caloes.ca.gov)

February 2017